

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element, particularly for patients, with at least one cooling zone (2), wherein elastic means (7) are provided to pre-tension the cooling zone (2) against the body surface (10) of a person wearing the personal cooling element, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cooling zone (2) is three-layered with an internal layer (4) facing towards the body, an external layer (6) facing away from the body and an evaporation zone (8) arranged therebetween, wherein the internal layer (4) and the external layer (6) each are made from a material that is waterproof and permeable to water vapor, and wherein water supply means (14, 16) are present to supply the evaporation zone (8) with liquid water.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the evaporation zone (8) is made from a hydrophilic material.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the evaporation zone (8) comprises a channel system.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1, any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that wherein the external layer (6) has a thickness of 1 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1, any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that wherein the internal layer (4) has a thickness of 10 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

6. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1,  
~~any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that~~ wherein the internal layer (4) and the external  
layer (6) are connected to form a lateral seal (12) of the evaporation zone (8).

7. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1,  
~~any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ wherein it is formed as a garment.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1,  
~~any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that~~ wherein the cooling zone (2) is formed for a tight  
fit to at least one selected body part.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Personal~~ A personal cooling element according to claim 1,  
~~any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that~~ wherein the water supply means comprise a water  
supply system (14) connected to a pump.

10. (Currently amended) A method of cooling body parts by means of the personal  
cooling element according to claim 1, wherein ~~any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that~~ the  
personal cooling element is brought into close contact with the skin of a body part to be cooled  
and is pre-tensioned against the same, and that the evaporation zone is supplied continuously or  
intermittently with water.

11. (New) A personal element according to claim 2, wherein the evaporation zone comprises a channel system.

12. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 3, wherein the external layer (6) has a thickness of 1 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

13. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 2, wherein the internal layer has a thickness of 10 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

14. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 4, wherein the internal layer has a thickness of 10 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

15. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 3, wherein the internal layer and the external layer are connected to form a lateral seal of the evaporation zone.

16. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 4, wherein the internal layer and the external layer are connected to form a lateral seal of the evaporation zone.

17. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 5, wherein the internal layer and the external layer are connected to form a lateral seal of the evaporation zone.

18. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 3, the water supply means comprise a water supply system connected to a pump.

19. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 6, the water supply means comprise a water supply system connected to a pump.

20. (New) A personal cooling element according to claim 7, the water supply means comprise a water supply system connected to a pump.